Assigned to GOV FOR COMMITTEE



# ARIZONA STATE SENATE

Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

### FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1722

political signs; condominiums; planned communities

### **Purpose**

Extends the period during which a condominium or planned community association (HOA) cannot prohibit political signs. Extends, from 60 to 71 days before a primary election, the time period for which a city, town or county is prohibited from removing, altering, defacing or covering political signs.

## **Background**

Statute classifies knowingly removing, altering defacing or covering a political sign or knowingly removing, altering or defacing political mailers, handouts, flyers or other printed materials during the period commencing 45 days before a primary election and 7 days after the general election a class 2 misdemeanor. The period ends seven days after the primary election for a candidate in a primary election who does not advance to the general election. A city, town, or county cannot remove, alter, deface or cover any political sign during the period commencing sixty days before a primary election and ending fifteen days after the general election, except the period ends fifteen days after the primary election for a sign for a candidate in the primary election who does not advance to the general election (A.R.S. § 16-1019).

An HOA cannot prohibit the outdoor display of political signs by a unit owner or member earlier than 71 days before the day of an election and later than 3 days after an election day. An HOA cannot require political signs to be commercially produced or professionally manufactured or prohibit the utilization of both sides of a political sign (A.R.S. §§ 33-1261 and 33-1808).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

### **Provisions**

- 1. Extends, from 60 to 71 days before a primary election, the time period for which a city, town or county is prohibited from removing, altering, defacing or covering a political sign.
- 2. Prohibits an HOA from prohibiting the display of political signs during the period:
  - a) beginning 71 days before a primary election, rather than 71 days before an election; and
  - b) ending 15 days after the general election, rather than 3 days after an election.
- 3. Allows an HOA to prohibit the display of a political sign more than 15 days after a primary election for a candidate that does not advance to the general election
- 4. Makes technical and conforming changes.
- 5. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Prepared by Senate Research February 11, 2021 MH/HF/gs